Stopping subsidy to Public Sector Units

569. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to stop subsidy to Public Sector Units;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government propose to stop taking-over sick units; and

(c) if so, whether any new policy is being laid down in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISES IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF. K. K. TEWARY): (a) Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Food & Fertilizer subsidies There is at present no proposal to stop these subsidies.

(b) There is no such general decision at present.

(c) Does not arise.

Oil drilled from Gandhar oil Field

570. SHRI VITHALBHAI MOTIRAM PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the daily quantum of oil being drilled from Gandhar Oil field;

(b) what steps Government are going to take to drill more oil from Gandhar Oil field;

(c) what is the quantum of oil reserve estimated in Gandhar Oil field; and

(d) what is the quantum of natural gas estimated to be present in the Gandhar Oil field?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Gandhar field is currently producing crude oil at the rate of about 150 tonnes per day.

(b) ONGC propose to drill more exploratory wells in this area; the number of rigs is being increased from 5 to 6.

(c) and (d) The field is under delineation.

Industries for manufacture of Penicillin

571. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised the Plan to set up industries for the manufacture of penicillin in the country during the year 1987-88;

(b) if so, what are the details regarding the sites selected for this purpose; and

(c) the funds allocated for each plant and the time by which it will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PETRO-CHEMICALS IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI R. K. JAICHANDRA SINGH): (a) to (c) Under the recently announced "Measures for Rationalisation, Quality Control and Growth of Drugs and Pharmaceutical Industry in India," manufacture of Penicillin has been dereserved from Public Sector with a view to boost its production. In response to this several applications have been received for setting up Pencillin projects at different locations in the country. These applications are presently under scrutiny.

Panel to finalise the list of essential Drugs

572. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high powered panel has recently been set up by Government to